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Ray Nitschke's

PACKER REPORT

A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
GREEN BAY PACKERS AND
THE NFL

Vol. 22 No. 12 October 1, 1994

**Packers 30,
Bucs 3**

Hauck,
West
are hot

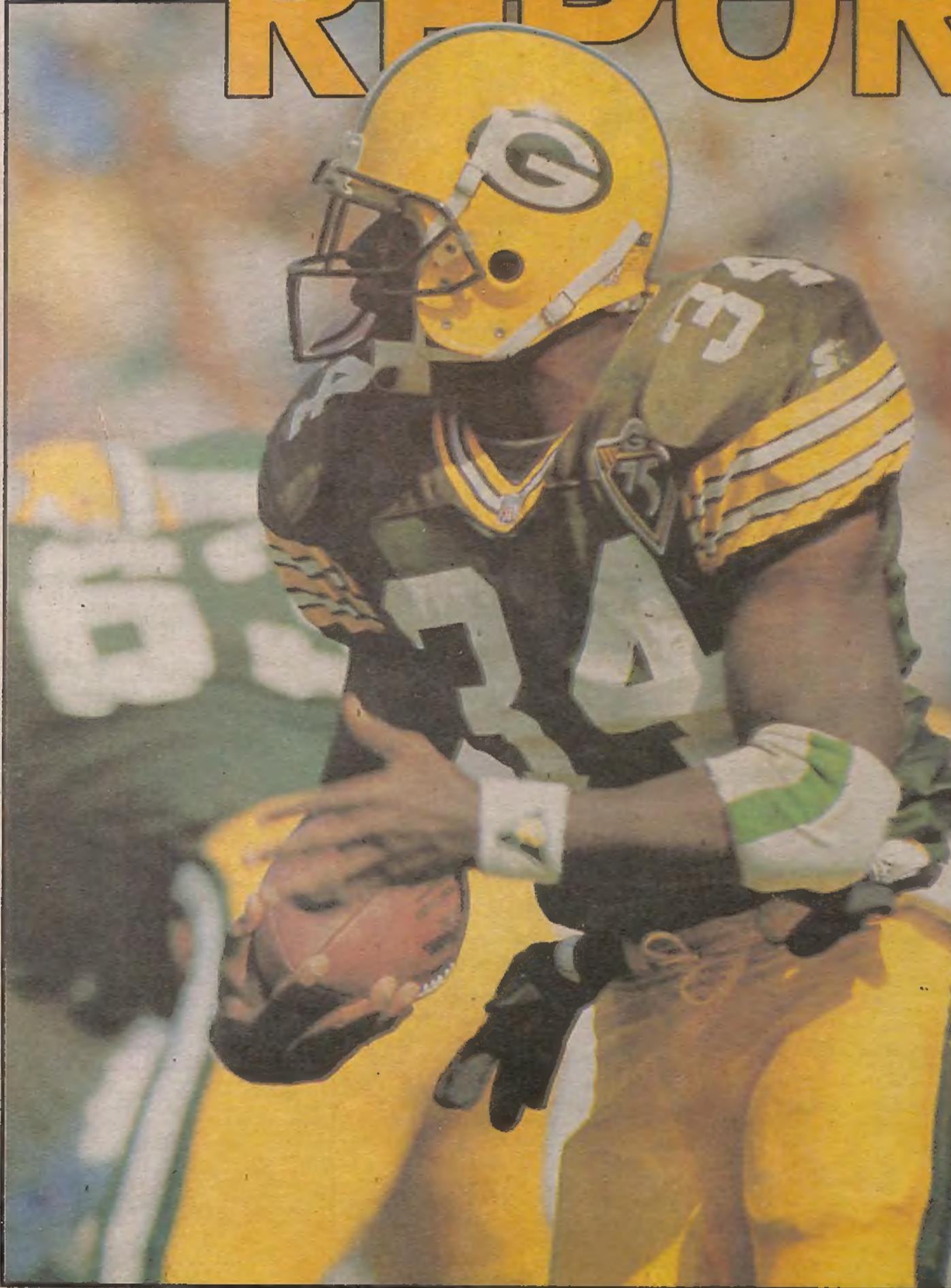
Jamie
Dukes
featured



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Le Shon Johnson had his biggest day so far Sunday, leading the Packer receivers with 84 yards, on six

catches. He also carried 10 times for 21 yards.
— Al Fredrickson photo

Commentary

Alums see good win

Sunday was certainly a real pleasing win in the sense that the whole team needed this victory — and the fans too.

The way the Packers went about it impressed me. They played an outstanding game in the sense they executed, where they had not in the last couple games. They controlled the tempo, they controlled the clock and didn't commit as many errors as they had in recent weeks.

The offense especially came to the fore, where they had not been doing too much in recent weeks.

The Packers showed a run game. Quarterback Brett Favre had one of his best days ever — a very high completion percentage with no interceptions.

The offensive line deserves a lot of credit. They are banged up, patched up and were maligned in recent weeks but I thought they played very well Sunday.

Defensively, Sunday we saw more of the same we've seen. They did a great job holding the Bucs to 3 points. They came up with some turnovers — and the offense converted the turnovers into scores.

The defense again did what it had to do — pressured the quarterbacks, covered well — held Jackie Harris to two catches. The defense is getting better every week as they play more together and get used to

one another.

That's encouraging.

It was a wonderful homecoming for all the returning alumni from all over the country. They often have not seen Packers

Ray Nitschke



victories during these alumni-reunion games but Sunday they saw an inspired team. The Packers came close to dominating the game. That's really a credit to the team, after their last couple games.

It was good to see the offense come out, open it up a little bit, make some big plays, throw the ball downfield a little bit and really run the ball with some consistency finally.

We saw some big plays from LeShon Johnson and Ed West and we saw Brett find a lot of different targets — something

that shows he is grasping the offense pretty well and maturing.

What a timely victory by the Packers in the early part of this season. This was a very important game, 2-2 looks a lot better than 1-3.

It's interesting and important that both wins have been against Division teams. The one game in which they gave up a lot of points was an AFC team. These things can matter in December when you start looking at tie-breakers and such, on the road to the playoffs.

But it's also important how you win — the Packers just won outright. They were a better team this day than the Buccaneers in every phase of the game.

This is what the Packers fans were looking for this year — they were anticipating the Packers would be much improved and in this game, the fans finally got to see some of that. I thought the Packers looked like contenders Sunday.

Now the Packers have to continue to move forward. They have to continue to show like this — and better.

They have to build on this. There is momentum coming out of an all-around game like this and that's important. They need to build momentum early in the season to move forward.

Ray Nitschke PACKER REPORT

A Royle Publication devoted exclusively to the Green Bay Packers and the NFL.

Vol. 22 No. 12, Oct. 1, 1994

On the cover...

Fullback Edgar Bennett.
— Vernon J. Biever photo

In the middle ...

Right cornerback Terrell Buckley.
— Al Fredrickson photo

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Offense shows!

Packers get 6 scores, win by 27 points

by Joe DiGiovanni

The Buccaneers were the perfect antidote to this season's slow Packer start.

Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes and Chris Jacke booted three field goals to set a team record Sunday as Green Bay posted a 30-3 victory over the traditionally hapless Bucs before 58,551 Lambeau Field faithful.

"It was overall a great day," said Favre, now 4-0 in starts against the Bucs.

The Packers' offense had trouble controlling the ball its first three games, but held possession for 38:32 against Tampa, 1-3. Favre may have had his best game as a pro, and Ed West outplayed former teammate Jackie Harris (see page 5) as Green Bay improved to 2-2.

The defense played strong again, forcing three turnovers. Each led to a score. Bryce Paup had two sacks, including a key fourth-down rush, and Reggie White forced one fumble and recovered another.

Reggie Cobb, Edgar Bennett and LeShon Johnson had 93 yards rushing on a season-high 29 carries. The trio caught 17 passes for 172 yards. Darrell Thompson lost two yards on two carries, giving the running backs 263 all-purpose yards, the most by Packer backs in a game coached by Mike Holmgren.

Nobody did it right, but West scored

Leading, 16-3, in the third quarter, Favre completed four consecutive passes to get the Packers to the Bucs' 20. On second down, he scrambled away from defensive end Chidi Ahanotu and found West open inside the 10.

The tight end broke a tackle attempt



Jackie who?

Tight end Ed West caught more passes for more yards and more points than former understudy Jackie Harris did Sunday, helping the Packers earn a 30-3 victory over Harris' Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

— Dave Fredrickson photo

by cornerback Charles Dimry at the 5 and ran over safety Thomas Everett at the 3, diving into the end zone, giving Green Bay a commanding 23-3 lead with three seconds left in the third quarter.

"I don't know how we came away with a TD because I audibled with about five seconds left (on the play clock) so that doesn't leave us very much time," Favre said. "Guys were lifting their heads up trying to figure out the audible."

"Everybody on the whole team ran something different than what they were supposed to," he said. "Ed West was supposed to split the middle and run right

down the middle."

"I looked at him, then pumped and looked at Reggie (Cobb)," he said. "Reggie ran a swing route instead of an arrow route, which was supposed to be about six yards down the field."

"If I was ever nervous it was on that play, I didn't know what to do," he said. "Ed ran the wrong route, but it was a great wrong route."

Favre completes career-best 76.9%

Favre stayed poised the whole game, completing 30-of-39 passes for 306 yards. The yardage and 76.9 completion

percentage were his best marks during a Packer victory in his three years here.

Staying away from interceptions, Favre threw one ball away during pressure, and never forced a pass. For the first time, Favre and Holmgren developed a plan before the game.

In addition, they talked on the side during the game about upcoming plays. Quarterbacks Coach Steve Mariucci returned to the coaches' box after spending the first three games on the sidelines.

"Truth be known the most fun thing for me to do is coach the quarterback," said Holmgren, who at one point sat down on the bench next to Favre and appeared to be diagramming plays. "I just decided that during the game he and I were going to talk through everything."

Defense creates turnovers

On its first possession, Tampa took 10 plays to drive to the Green Bay 13. White tackled Vince Workman for a one-yard loss and Paup sacked Craig Erickson for a nine-yard loss to the 22.

On third down, Erickson's pass to running back Mazio Royster was short and cornerback Lenny McGill — one yard deep in the end zone — got his first career interception to end the drive. The Packers took 8:44, but got a 21-yard field goal by Jacke with 12:13 left in the second quarter to take a 3-0 lead.

Tampa, which has not won more than six games in a season since 1981, tried a reverse from the Green Bay 44 on wet grass. Workman took the ball, but wide receiver Charles Wilson couldn't handle his pitch and fumbled backward.

Gilbert Brown jumped on the ball, but it squirted loose from several players until White recovered on Tampa's 43. Johnson gained three yards on first down and then scampered 27 yards on a pass to the 13 after beating safety Marty Carter.

Continued on page 19

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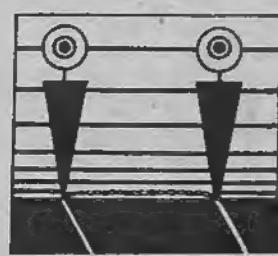
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GAME STATISTICS

SCORING SUMMARY

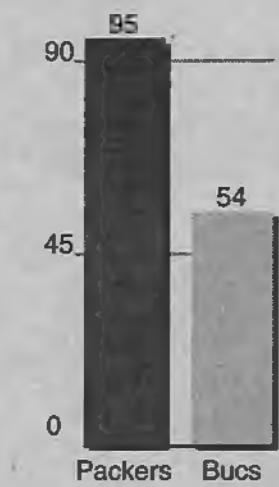
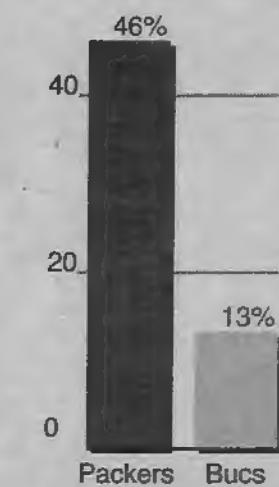
| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|----|---|----|
| Tampa Bay Buccaneers..... | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Green Bay Packers..... | 0 | 13 | 10 | 7 | 30 |
| Packers, 2, 12:13, Jacke 21-yard field goal (15-82, 8:44) 0-3 | | | | | |
| Packers, 2, 7:36, Bennett 9-yard pass from Favre (Jacke, kick) (5-43, 2:46) 0-10 | | | | | |
| • Packers, 2, 0:13, Jacke 20-yard field goal (6-20, 1:04) 0-13 | | | | | |
| Packers, 3, 6:58, Jacke 22-yard field goal (12-49, 6:48) 0-16 | | | | | |
| Buccaneers, 3, 4:12, Husted 24-yard field goal (9-53, 2:46) 3-16 | | | | | |
| Packers, 3, 0:03, West 20-yard pass from Favre (Jacke, kick) (7-61, 4:09) 3-23 | | | | | |
| Packers, 4, 2:25, Sharpe 3-yard pass from Favre (Jacke, kick) (8-64, 4:55) 3-30 | | | | | |
| Attendance: 58,551; Tickets Distributed: 59,543; Unused: 992; Time: 2:49 | | | | | |
| Weather: Cloudy, temperature 66, humidity 95, wind NE 7 mph | | | | | |

FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

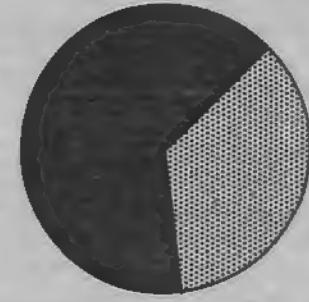
| | Bucs | Packers |
|--|---------|----------|
| TOTAL FIRST DOWNS | 15 | 24 |
| By Rushing | 5 | 5 |
| By Passing | 9 | 18 |
| By Penalty | 1 | 1 |
| THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY | 1-8-13% | 6-13-46% |
| FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY | 1-3-33% | 1-2-50% |
| TOTAL NET YARDS | 231 | 401 |
| Total Offensive Plays (inc. time thrown passing) | 51 | 73 |
| Average gain per offensive play | 4.5 | 5.5 |
| NET YARDS RUSHING | 54 | 95 |
| Total Rushing Plays | 17 | 34 |
| Average gain per rushing play | 3.2 | 2.8 |
| NET YARDS PASSING | 177 | 306 |
| Times thrown — yards lost attempting to pass | 4-20 | 0-0 |
| Gross yards passing | 197 | 306 |
| PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INT. | 30-12-1 | 39-30-0 |
| Average gain per pass play (inc. # thrown passing) | 5.2 | 7.8 |
| KICKOFFS-In End Zone-Touchbacks | 2-0-0 | 7-1-0 |
| PUNTS Number and Average | 2-44.5 | 2-39.5 |
| Had Blocked | 0 | 0 |
| FGs-PATs Had Blocked | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs) | 0 | 24 |
| No. and Yards Punt Returns | 0-0 | 2-8 |
| No. and Yards Kickoff Returns | 5-86 | 2-64 |
| No. and Yards Interception Returns | 0-0 | 1-16 |
| PENALTIES Number and Yards | 2-20 | 4-22 |
| FUMBLES Number and Lost | 2-2 | 0-0 |
| TOUCHDOWNS | 0 | 3 |
| Rushing | 0 | 0 |
| Passing | 0 | 3 |
| EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts | 0-0 | 3-3 |
| FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts | 1-1 | 3-3 |
| SAFETIES | 0 | 0 |
| FINAL SCORE | 3 | 30 |
| TIME OF POSSESSION | 21:28 | 38:32 |

GREEN BAY PACKERS

| RUSHING | Net | | | | Long Gain | TD |
|-----------------|------|------|------|----|-----------|----|
| | Att. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | | |
| Cobb | 12 | 46 | 3.8 | 11 | 0 | |
| Bennett | 7 | 26 | 3.7 | 15 | 0 | |
| Johnson | 10 | 21 | 2.1 | 9 | 0 | |
| Favre | 3 | 4 | 1.3 | 3 | 0 | |
| Thompson | 2 | -2 | -1.0 | 2 | 0 | |
| PASS RECEIVING | Had | | | | | |
| Favre | 39 | 30 | 306 | 0 | 3 | 36 |
| | | | | | | 0 |
| PASS RECEIVING | No. | Yds. | LG | TD | | |
| Bennett | 8 | 37 | 9 | 1 | | |
| Johnson | 6 | 84 | 27 | 0 | | |
| Sharpe | 5 | 43 | 13 | 1 | | |
| Cobb | 3 | 51 | 36 | 0 | | |
| West | 3 | 51 | 21 | 1 | | |
| Brooks | 3 | 29 | 12 | 0 | | |
| Lewis | 1 | 9 | 9 | 0 | | |
| Wilner | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | |
| INTERCEPTIONS | No. | Yds. | LG. | TD | | |
| McGill | 1 | 16 | 16 | 0 | | |
| PUNTING | No. | Yds. | Avg. | TB | In 20 | LG |
| Hentrich | 2 | 79 | 39.5 | 0 | 1 | 48 |
| PUNT RETURNS | No. | FC | Yds. | LG | TD | |
| Brooks | 2 | 0 | 8 | 6 | 0 | |
| KICKOFF RETURNS | No. | FC | Yds. | LG | TD | |
| Jordan | 2 | 0 | 64 | 33 | 0 | |

Rushing Yards

Third Down Conversions

Passing Yards


Packers 38:32


Time of Possession

Buccaneers 21:28

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

| RUSHING | Net | | | | Long Gain | TD |
|---------|------|------|------|----|-----------|----|
| | Att. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | | |
| Workman | 8 | 21 | 2.6 | 11 | 0 | |
| Rhett | 7 | 21 | 3.0 | 7 | 0 | |
| Dilfer | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 12 | 0 | |

PASS RECEIVING

| Hawkins | Had | | | |
|----------|-----|------|----|----|
| | No. | Yds. | LG | TD |
| Hawkins | 5 | 61 | 15 | 0 |
| Harris | 2 | 48 | 41 | 0 |
| Wilson | 2 | 41 | 26 | 0 |
| Copeland | 1 | 26 | 26 | 0 |
| Green | 1 | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| Rhett | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 |

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

| Jones | Unofficial | | | |
|-----------|------------|---|-----|-----|
| | T | A | SK | YL |
| Jurkovic | 2 | 0 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| White | 2 | 0 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Teague | 1 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Buckley | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Koone | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Wilkins | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Brown | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| McGill | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| McMichael | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Willis | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Prior | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Williams | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Wilson | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

GREEN BAY PACKERS

| Hauck | Unofficial | | | |
|------------|------------|---|-----|------|
| | T | A | SK | YL |
| Strickland | 2 | 4 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Evans | 4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Paup | 3 | 1 | 2.0 | 16.0 |
| Harris | 1 | 2 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Davey | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

| Stargell | Unofficial | | | |
|----------|------------|---|-----|----|
| | T | A | SK | YL |
| Beckles | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Lynch | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Rhett | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Stargell | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

Commentary

Hauck, West had hands in win

The pre-game hype was Jackie Harris vs. Reggie Cobb.

The reality concerning them: It was really the Packer defense against Harris and the Buccaneer defense against Cobb.

The Packers won both matchups.

Harris caught only two passes, for a total of 48 yards. Cobb ran for just two fewer yards, 46. He finished with 12 car-

Al Pahl



ries, his highest total this season, and declined all comment after the game.

Harris and Cobb are the biggest names in those matchups, but Ed West, Tim Hauck and LeShon Johnson had big games.

West outperformed his former understudy: More catches (3-2) for more yards (51-48) and more points (6-0). West has outscored Harris, 14-12 in 1994.

"It's just things — the defense they were giving us, I was able to do some things," West said modestly. "Our defense planned Jackie a little tighter and he wasn't able to do a lot of things."

Hauck has a hot game

One of the principal Packers in charge of keeping track of Harris was strong safety Hauck, making his second consecutive start in place of Pro Bowler LeRoy Butler (pneumonia). Hauck led the team in tackles with six and in solo tackles, with five. He broke up two passes.

George Teague, the other safety, also broke up two passes, as did Lenny McGill, who had his best game of his career, adding one interception to that.

"It was another chance for me to prove myself," Hauck said. "Today was against one of the best tight ends in the league. Jackie is a great player. I can't take all the credit for holding him down — it wasn't just me, man-to-man on him all day. He caught some balls on us."

Hauck, making the second of his five-year career, spent the past three seasons

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Tim Hauck, one of the key people involved in holding Bucs' tight end Jackie Harris down Sunday, receives congratulations from former teammate Mark Murphy. The game was the annual Packer Alumni reunion, followed by a banquet Sunday night and a golf tournament Monday.

— Al Fredrickson photo

working against Harris in practice. Although he didn't specifically say that helped, it obviously didn't hurt.

"You've got to be aware of where he

is and what he's doing all the time but you don't want to key in on him and forget everybody else they have out there, because they have a lot of good people."

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Within reach

Dukes does exactly what Packers expected

Customarily, size, speed and/or strength -- depending upon the position involved -- are the physical keys to success in the National Football League.

But amiable Jamie Dukes, currently the Packers' resident center, represents a case apart. He says, without reservation, that he owes his presence in the NFL to another dimension, length -- as in reach.

The possessor of an 84-inch "spread," Dukes will tell you, "That's the only rea-

Lee Remmel



son I'm playing (professional football) -- my reach. Because my arms are longer than they're supposed to be (for his height, 6-1-1/2)...It gives me a leverage advantage (on defensive linemen).

"Mike Kenn and Lincoln Kennedy (his former Falcons' teammates) are both 6-7 plus," Dukes proceeded to explain, "and my arms are longer than theirs are."

"And Jumpy Gathers, who I also played with at Atlanta, and I have about the same wing span. He's 6-7-1/2 and he's the man with the 'fork-lift' pass rush he uses. It's unstoppable."

Be that as it may, the Packers -- particularly Offensive Line Coach Tom Lovat -- are happy Jamie's lengthy asset carried him into the NFL -- and that the football fates brought him to Green Bay as an unrestricted free agent.

In case what happened, happened

"We brought him in for depth," he said of Dukes, signed on July 8, shortly before training camp opened, "and we're glad we've got him...We got him in the event of what happened...happened."

Lovat was referring to the injury loss of starting left guard Guy McIntyre following the Packers' regular-season opener against the Vikings, a development which triggered the move of starting center Frank Winters to that position -- and the insertion of Dukes at center, a position at which he had started for Atlanta for the past five seasons.

"He kept himself ready," Lovat said. "He knew his role, and how he's starting."



"He's bright, he fits in very well, he studies the game," Offensive Line Coach Tom Lovat says of Jamie Dukes. **"He's a true professional."**

— Al Fredrickson photo

He's been a starter in this league a long time. He was a good acquisition...He's done well in the two games he's started, and he had a good pre-season.

"He's bright. He fits in very well. He studies his game. He's a true professional."

Jamie's natural endowment, it turns out, has enabled him to compensate for another factor -- his relative lack of "altitude" -- that initially militated against his making the NFL grade.

Undrafted because of height

Although a two-time All-America selection at Florida State, he went undrafted in 1986 after helping the Seminoles go to four consecutive bowl games during his college career.

Asked if he had been surprised over being bypassed, Dukes replied, "Not really -- because of my height. Some teams talked to me and worked me out before the draft -- and 12 or 15 teams tried to sign me after the draft.

"But they (pro scouts) had to save face. Ken Herock, who was with the Raiders then, and Lide Higgins of the Broncos, explained to me that they couldn't draft me because I wasn't tall enough."

"Herock wanted to draft me but he said Al Davis (the Raiders' managing general partner) would kill him because Al was big on the 6-4 and 6-5 guys."

Subsequently, however, Dukes was in a position to make a choice from among the dozen or so post-draft "suitors" pursuing him. He settled upon the Falcons.

Once provided an opportunity, he proceeded to attract the coaching staff's attention by taking full advantage of injuries to guards Bill Fralic and Jeff Kievel during his rookie training camp. These developments, in turn, enabled him to start at right guard in Weeks 13...

ing to me -- not playing," Dukes admits. "I don't begrudge anybody, but I don't have a backup player's mentality...Being able to accept it is difficult for me."

Now that he is a starter once again, Dukes admits adjusting to his teammates in the line is an ongoing process.

"I learn things about them every day and I'm sure they learn things about me on a daily basis," he said. "Hopefully we'll grow together more each week."

"It's a little bit communication but it's more feel -- being used to how one guy sets, compared to another," Dukes explained. "Harry (right guard Harry Galbreath), for example, likes to take the 'inside' away. Frank Winters (left guard) likes to square up on a guy."

Line of a blend of youth, veterans

Dukes says he feels "pretty good" about the line's efforts to date but points out, "Some of the concerns have been the right tackle...It's been a revolving door...Somebody seems to be getting hurt on a quarterly basis."

"It's kind of hard on the right guard, having to adjust to a new guy each week. But Ken (Ruetgers) having played 10 years, me coming in from Atlanta with five years' experience as a starter and Harry Galbreath having been a starter for five years at Miami, there's a lot of reps on the offensive line -- a lot of experience. And we have a good group of young linemen. Earl (Dotson) and Hutch (Paul Hutchins) and Joe (Sims)...three good young tackles."

Dukes is relatively comfortable with his performance to date.

"I've made mistakes but, for the most part, it's been fairly consistent," he said. "There are some technique things you have to work out for games -- nuances that are different from the run-and-shoot type of offense (a la Atlanta), subtle things you have to adjust to."

Addressing the offensive problems the Packers had encountered over the first three games of the regular season, Dukes observed, "We've been a little careless with the ball. Generally, we have to have more people step up to make plays. It

Continued on page 17

FUZZY THURSTON'S SHENANAGANS FOOTBALL PACKAGES

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Family Spotlight

Michael Robert Prior

Ninth-year safety

Born - Nov. 14, 1963, Chicago Heights, IL.

College - Illinois State. Major: Business administration.

Family - Wife Diane, daughters Nicole 8; Briana 5 1/2, Paige 3 1/2.

The last book I read was - "Baby Sitters' Club: Karen's Birthday" (to my girls)

A movie I'd recommend to my friends is - The Lion King.

My favorite hobbies are - Golf, softball.

The things I like about football are - Competition.

The things I like best to do with my

family are - Show Biz Pizza, fishing, playing in the yard.

I would describe my wife as - Caring, sensitive. Always willing to help others.

I would describe myself as - Easy going; I can get along with about anybody.

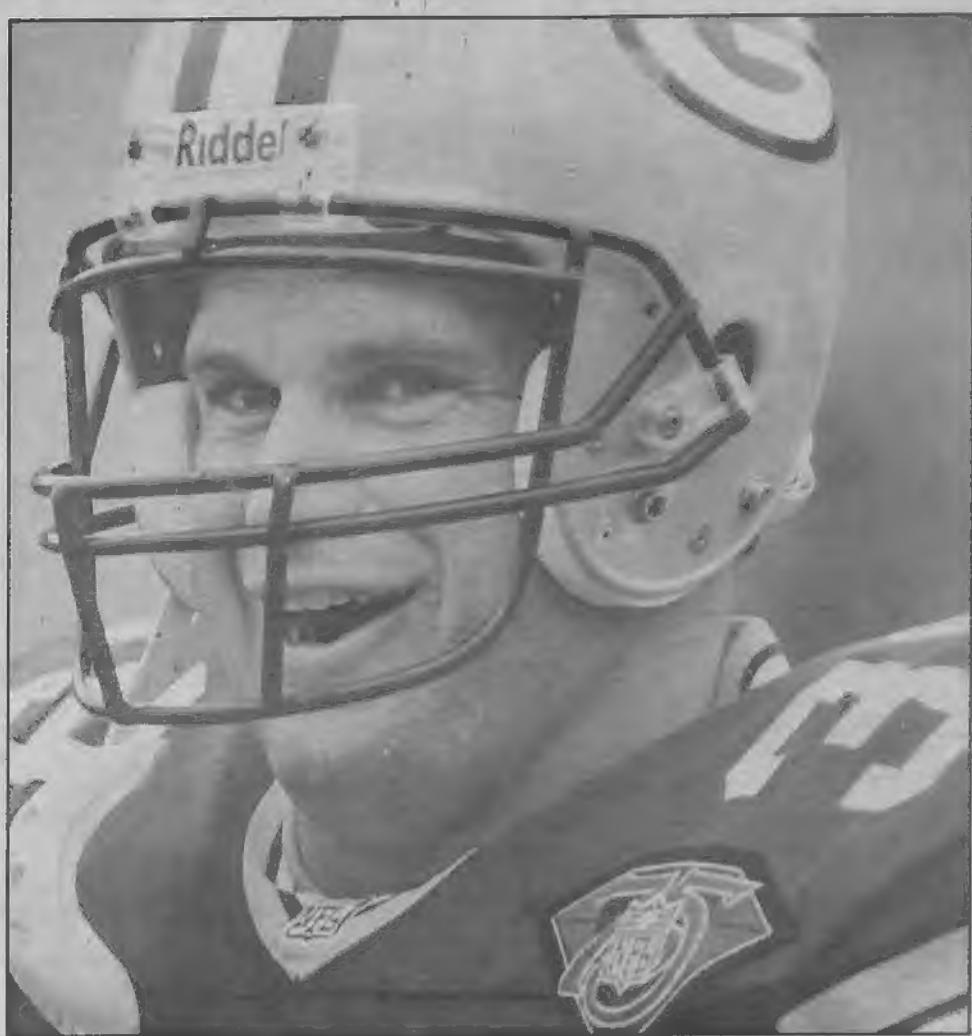
My favorite piece of advice to give people is - Only worry about things you can control.

The most influential people in my life is - My wife. I can always count on Diane, in good times and bad.

My greatest personal accomplishment outside of football -- My wife and our three daughters.

If I could live in another time, it would be - I wouldn't want to. Why mess with fate?

Who is/was the world's greatest leader and why - Jesus Christ. People are still worshipping him daily.



"I would describe myself as easy going; I can get along with about anybody" writes veteran safety Mike Prior.

-- Al Fredrickson photo

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When The PACKERS Have The Ball

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| RCB 37 Hurst 43 Lewis | FS 29 Guyton 30 Brown | SS 42 Barnett 23 Ray | LCB 21 Reynolds 22 Smith 27 Wren |
| RLB 53 Slade 99 Carthen | MLB 46 Moore 54 Collins | LLB 59 Brown 52 Bavaro 50 DeOssie | |
| RE 98 Jones 97 A. Jones | NT 72 Goad 63 Stanley | LE 93 Pitts 92 Agnew 98 Barnett | |
| WR 87 Brooks 85 Lewis 80 Jordan | LT 75 Rutgers 67 Hutchins 71 Brown | LG 52 Winters 68 Sims 62 McIntyre (inj.) | C 63 Dukes 52 Winters |
| QB 4 Favre 8 Brunell 11 Delmer | RG 76 Galbreath 63 Dukes | RT 88 Sims 67 Hutchins 72 Dolson 71 Brown | TE 86 West 89 Chmura 83 Wilner |
| KR 30 Harris 29 Wilson 81 Morgan 26 Thompson 42 Johnson | RB 32 Cobb 42 Johnson 26 Thompson 29 Wilson | | |
| | | FB 34 Bennett 26 Thompson 25 Levens | WR 84 Sharpe 81 Morgan 88 Mickens |

When The Patriots Have The Ball

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| RCB 33 Evans 30 Harris 45 Duckett | FS 31 Teague 39 Prior | SS 24 Hauck 36 Butler | LCB 27 Buckley 22 McGill 45 Duckett |
| ROLB 53 Koonce 56 Willis 51 M. Williams | MLB 55 Strickland 58 Willis | LOLB 56 Paup 58 Hamilton 59 Simmons (inj.) | |
| RE 96 Jones 98 Wilkins | RT 90 McMichael 94 Brock | LT 64 Jurkovic 93 Brown | LE 92 White 98 Davey |
| WR 82 Brisby 19 Hawkins | LT 78 Armstrong 70 Moore | LG 61 Katch 69 Chung | C 65 Arthur 67 Giesler |
| QB 44 Butts 36 Thompson 26 Croom 31 Thomas | RG 74 Skene 71 Rucci | RT 77 Harlow 68 Lane | TE 87 Coates 85 Burke |
| RB 11 Bledsoe 16 Zolak 7 Walker | FB 34 Turner 33 Gash 35 Legette | WR 83 Timpson 81 Crittenden | |

Pats' offense great, 'D' not

Who would have ever thought a Bill Parcells-coached team would be among the NFL's elite offensive teams, yet, one of its worst defensively?

...and if this unthinkable thought were true, Parcells' smash-mouth brand of running the ball would most assuredly have his team leading the league in rushing.

Yes, it is true that Parcells' current club, the Patriots, is defying logic by playing great offense but poor defense.

But it is not true that the Pats are running the ball like the Giants did for Parcells when he guided them to two Super Bowl crowns.

Give credit, though, to Parcells for recognizing the talent level of last year's top draft choice, quarterback Drew Bledsoe. The New England mentor has turned the youngster loose and he is responding far earlier than anticipated.

Under Bledsoe the Patriots were averaging just under 34 points per game after three weeks and 1,398 yards of real estate for an average of 466 per game.

Conversely, New England's defense, one that carried the club last year, has become porous in allowing 1,332 yards over three games. They have been particularly vulnerable via the airwaves because of a lack of a pass rush.

Surprisingly, the Pats had gained near-

ly six times more yardage throwing than running. Bledsoe had completed 88-of-143 aerials for 1,157 yards and eight scores after three games. The running game had only managed 236 yards in that time frame.

Meanwhile, not many people would have expected Green Bay to be plagued by offensive problems heading into

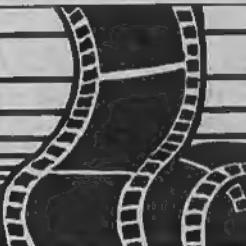
Jim Burgess



Sunday's contest. Hopefully, the Pats' defense will be a cureall for what ails the Pack Sunday in Foxboro as they try to take a 3-2 lead in the series that dates back to 1973.

Line protecting Bledsoe well

Bledsoe's stock has sky-rocketed this campaign as his confidence and maturity levels have undoubtedly arrived.



NEXT WEEK'S OPPONENT

Parcells sees defense improving

While it is difficult to praise a defense that has allowed 411 yards per game, Parcells believes his unit is improving each week.

To its credit, it allowed 38.5 points in each of the first two weeks, but dropped that to 28 in gaining a Week Three triumph over Cincinnati.

Up front, the unit is more defense by committee. Mike Pitts, Tim Goad and Aaron Jones are starters, but Ray Agnew, Mike Jones, and John Washington all see ample action.

Number one draft choice Willie McGinest is pushing for the starting job at left outside linebacker, but has yet to unseat Dwayne Saab, who is flanked by Chris Slade.

Inside, Vincent Brown and Todd Collins appear to be the strength of the unit with the former ranking as one of the league's best.

Lacking a strong pass rush, the Pats' secondary has taken its lumps, allowing 1,020 yards in the air.

Two of the starters are free agents, left cornerback Ricky Reynolds (Tampa Bay) and free safety Myron Guyton (Giants).

Maurice Hurst, their best cover man,

Continued on next page

Packers

| No. | Name | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College | How Acquired |
|-----|------------------|------|------|-----|-----|------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 4 | Brett Favre | QB | 6-2 | 222 | 24 | 4 | S. Mississippi | T-92 (All) |
| 8 | Mark Brunell | QB | 6-1 | 208 | 23 | 2 | Washington | D5a-93 |
| 11 | Ty Detmer | QB | 6-0 | 186 | 26 | 3 | Brigham Young | D9a-92 |
| 13 | Chris Jacke | K | 6-0 | 200 | 28 | 6 | Texas-EI Paso | D6-89 |
| 17 | Craig Hentrich | P/K | 6-3 | 200 | 23 | 1 | Notre Dame | FA-93 |
| 22 | Lenny McGill | CB | 6-1 | 194 | 23 | R | Arizona State | FA-94 |
| 24 | Tim Hauck | S | 5-10 | 187 | 27 | 5 | Montana | PB-91 (NE) |
| 25 | Dorsey Levens | RB | 6-1 | 235 | 24 | R | Georgia Tech | D5b-94 |
| 26 | Darrell Thompson | RB | 6-1 | 217 | 26 | 5 | Minnesota | UFA-94 (D 1b-90) |
| 27 | Terrell Buckley | CB | 5-9 | 176 | 23 | 3 | Florida State | D1-92 |
| 29 | Marcus Wilson | RB | 6-1 | 215 | 26 | 3 | Virginia | FA-92 |
| 30 | Corey Harris | CB | 5-11 | 195 | 24 | 3 | Vanderbilt | W-92 (Hou) |
| 31 | George Teague | S | 6-1 | 190 | 23 | 2 | Alabama | D1b-93 |
| 32 | Reggie Cobb | RB | 6-0 | 215 | 26 | 5 | Tennessee | UFA-94 (TB) |
| 33 | Doug Evans | CB | 6-0 | 188 | 24 | 2 | Louisiana Tech | D6a-93 |
| 34 | Edgar Bennett | FB | 6-0 | 224 | 25 | 3 | Florida State | D4-92 |
| 36 | LeRoy Butler | S | 6-0 | 197 | 26 | 5 | Florida State | D2-90 |
| 39 | Mike Prior | S | 6-0 | 215 | 30 | 9 | Illinois State | UFA-93 (Ind) |
| 42 | LeShon Johnson | RB | 5-11 | 200 | 23 | R | Northern Illinois | D3-94 |
| 45 | Forey Duckett | CB | 6-3 | 185 | 24 | 1 | Nevada-Reno | W-94(Cinn.) |
| 51 | Mark Williams | LB | 6-3 | 240 | 23 | R | Ohio State | FA-94 |
| 52 | Frank Winters | C/G | 6-3 | 290 | 30 | 8 | W. Illinois | PB-92 (KC) |
| 53 | George Koonce | LB | 6-1 | 240 | 25 | 3 | East Carolina | FA-92 |
| 55 | Fred Strickland | LB | 6-2 | 250 | 27 | 7 | Purdue | UFA-94(MN) |
| 56 | James Willis | LB | 6-1 | 235 | 21 | 2 | Auburn | D5b-93 |
| 58 | Ruffin Hamilton | LB | 6-1 | 230 | 23 | R | Tulane | D6b-94 |
| 59 | Wayne Simmonds | LB | 6-2 | 240 | 24 | 2 | Clemson | D1a-93 |
| 62 | Guy McIntyre | G | 6-3 | 275 | 33 | 11 | Georgia | UFA-94 (SF) |
| 63 | Jamie Dukes | C/G | 6-2 | 295 | 30 | 9 | Florida Stt | FA-94 |
| 64 | John Jurkovic | NT | 6-2 | 290 | 26 | 3 | Eastern Illinois | FA-91 |
| 67 | Paul Hutchins | T | 6-4 | 335 | 24 | 2 | W. Michigan | FA-93 (D6b-93) |
| 68 | Joe Sime | T | 6-3 | 310 | 25 | 4 | Nebraska | FA-92 |
| 71 | Gary Brown | T | 6-4 | 294 | 23 | R | Georgia Tech. | W-94 (Pltt.) |
| 72 | Earl Dotson | T | 6-3 | 310 | 23 | 2 | Texas A&I | D3-93 |
| 75 | Ken Ruettgers | T | 6-6 | 280 | 31 | 10 | S. California | D1-85 |
| 76 | Harry Galbreath | G | 6-1 | 285 | 29 | 7 | Tennessee | UFA-93 (Mia) |
| 80 | Charles Jordan | WR | 5-10 | 175 | 24 | 2 | Long Beach City Coll. | T-94 (Raid) |
| 81 | Anthony Morgan | WR | 6-1 | 195 | 26 | 4 | Tennessee | W-93 (Chi) |
| 83 | Jeff Wilner | TE | 6-4 | 250 | 22 | R | Wesleyan (Conn.) | FA-94 |
| 84 | Sterling Sharpe | WR | 6-1 | 207 | 29 | 7 | South Carolina | D1-88 |
| 85 | Ron Lewis | WR | 5-11 | 192 | 26 | 5 | Florida State | FA-93 (W-92) |
| 86 | Ed West | TE | 6-1 | 250 | 32 | 11 | Auburn | FA-93 (FA-84) |
| 87 | Robert Brooks | WR | 6-0 | 175 | 24 | 3 | South Carolina | D3-92 |
| 88 | Terry McKens | WR | 6-0 | 200 | 23 | R | Florida A&M | D5a-94 |
| 89 | Mark Chmura | TE | 6-5 | 253 | 25 | 3 | Boston College | D6-92 |
| 90 | Steve McMichael | DT | 6-2 | 270 | 36 | 15 | Texas | FA-94(|
| 92 | Reggie White | DE | 6-5 | 295 | 31 | 10 | Tennessee | UFA-93(Phll) |
| 93 | Gilbert Brown | NT | 6-2 | 330 | 23 | 2 | Kansas | W-93 (Min) |
| 94 | Matt Brock | DT | 6-6 | 280 | 28 | 6 | Oregon | UFA-93 (D 3-89) |
| 95 | Bryce Paup | LB | 6-5 | 247 | 26 | 5 | Northern Iowa | D6-90 |
| 96 | Sean Jones | DE | 6-7 | 275 | 31 | 11 | Northeastern | UFA-94 (Hou) |
| 98 | Gabe Wilkins | DE | 6-4 | 300 | 22 | R | Gardner-Webb | D4-94 |
| 99 | Don Davey | DE | 6-4 | 270 | 26 | 4 | Wisconsin | FA-92 (D3a-91) |

INJURED RESERVE (out for season)

Player ... injury
 CB Roland Mitchell ... neck
 CB Sammy Walker ... elbow
 DE Matt LaBounty ... back

Date on
 Sept. 8
 Aug. 23
 Aug. 23

RESERVE/Physically Unable to Perform

Player ... injury
 G Aaron Taylor ... knee
 Date on
 Aug. 25

PRACTICE SQUAD

19 Bill Schroeder WR (D6c94)
 54 Bernard Carter LB FA-94
 70 Charles Hope G FA-94
 73 Jay Williams DE FA-94

Patriots

Continued from last page

plays right cornerback. Harlon Barnett plays strong safety.

Pats go short-long on field goals

New England goes with a short place-kicker in 16-year veteran Matt Bahr, who has been successful on his only four three-point attempts in Week Three.

Rookie punter Pat O'Neill also handles kickoffs and long field goal attempts. He had a 36.5-yard punting average after three weeks.

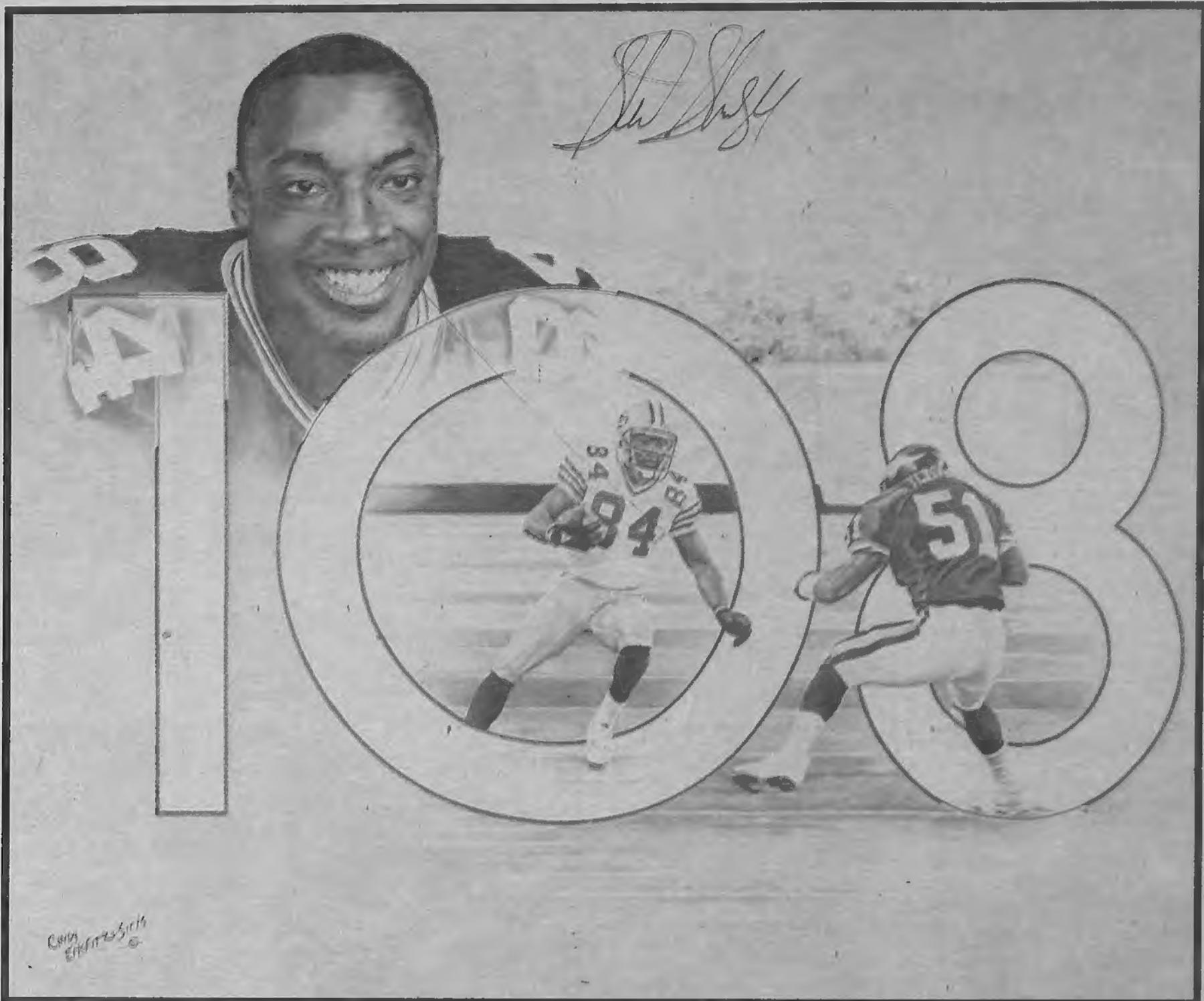
Backup wide receiver Ray Crittenden is the prime return specialist, bringing kickoffs back for a 22.8 average and punts for slightly better than an eight-yard average.

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Patriots

| No. | Name | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Yr. | College |
|-----|-------------------|------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 3 | Matt Bahr | K | 5-10 | 175 | 38 | 16 | Penn State |
| 5 | Pat O'Neill | P | 6-1 | 200 | 23 | R | Syracuse |
| 7 | Jay Walker | QB | 6-3 | 232 | 22 | R | Howard |
| 11 | Drew Bledsoe | QB | 6-5 | 233 | 22 | 2 | Washington St. |
| 18 | Scott Zolak | QB | 6-5 | 222 | 26 | 4 | Maryland |
| 21 | Ricky Reynolds | CB | 5-11 | 190 | 29 | 8 | Washington St. |
| 22 | Rod Smith | CB | 5-11 | 188 | 24 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 23 | Terry Ray | SS | 6-1 | 205 | 24 | 3 | Oklahoma |
| 26 | Corey Croom | RB | 5-11 | 208 | 23 | 2 | Ball State |
| 27 | Darryl Wren | CB | 6-1 | 188 | 27 | 4 | Pittsburgh St., KS |
| 29 | Myron Guyton | SS | 6-1 | 205 | 26 | 6 | E. Kentucky |
| 30 | Corwin Brown | SS | 6-1 | 200 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |
| 32 | Blair Thomas | RB | 5-10 | 202 | 26 | 5 | Penn State |
| 33 | Sam Gash | FB | 5-11 | 224 | 25 | 3 | Penn State |
| 34 | Kevin Turner | FB | 6-1 | 230 | 25 | 3 | Alabama |
| 35 | Burnie Legette | FB | 6-1 | 243 | 23 | 2 | Michigan |
| 36 | Leroy Thompson | RB | 5-11 | 218 | 26 | 4 | Penn State |
| 37 | Maurice Hurst | CB | 5-10 | 185 | 26 | 6 | Southern |
| 42 | Harlon Barnett | FS | 5-11 | 200 | 27 | 5 | Michigan State |
| 43 | Vernon Lewis | CB | 5-10 | 192 | 23 | 2 | Pittsburgh |
| 44 | Marion Butts | RB | 6-1 | 248 | 27 | 6 | Florida State |
| 50 | Steve DeOssie | LB | 6-2 | 248 | 32 | 11 | Boston College |
| 52 | David Bavaro | LB | 6-1 | 228 | 27 | 4 | Syracuse |
| 53 | Chris Slade | LB | 6-4 | 232 | 23 | 2 | Virginia |
| 54 | Todd Collins | LB | 6-2 | 242 | 24 | 3 | Carson-Newman |
| 55 | Willie McGinest | LB | 6-5 | 252 | 22 | R | Southern Cal |
| 58 | Marty Moore | LB | 6-1 | 244 | 23 | R | Kentucky |
| 59 | Vincent Brown | LB | 6-2 | 245 | 29 | 7 | Mississippi Valley |
| 81 | Bob Kratch | G | 6-3 | 288 | 28 | 8 | Iowa |
| 83 | Sylvester Stanley | NT | 6-2 | 286 | 24 | R | Michigan |
| 65 | Mike Arthur | O | 6-3 | 280 | 26 | 4 | Texas A&M |
| 67 | Mike Gisler | G | 6-4 | 300 | 24 | 2 | Houston |
| 68 | Max Lane | T | 6-8 | 295 | 23 | R | Navy |
| 69 | Eugene Chung | G | 6-4 | 295 | 25 | 3 | Virginia Tech |
| 70 | Brandon Moore | T | 6-6 | 295 | 24 | 2 | Duke |
| 71 | Todd Rucci | G | 6-5 | 291 | 24 | 2 | Penn State |
| 72 | Tim Goad | NT | 6-3 | 280 | 28 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 74 | Doug Skene | G | 6-6 | 295 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |
| 77 | Pat Harlow | T | 6-6 | 290 | 25 | 4 | Southern Cal |
| 78 | Bruce Armstrong | T | 6-4 | 284 | 28 | 8 | Louisville |
| 80 | Steve Hawkins | WR | 6-5 | 210 | 23 | R | Western Michigan |
| 81 | Ray Crittenden | WR | 6-1 | 188 | 24 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 82 | Vincent Brisby | WR | 6-2 | 188 | 23 | 2 | NE Louisiana |
| 83 | Michael Timpson | WR | 5-10 | 180 | 27 | 8 | Penn State |
| 85 | John Burke | TE | 6-3</ | | | | |

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Throwback uniforms

They weren't always green, gold

And now the Packers have worn their 1937 uniforms for their last two games.

No, silly, not the same uniforms. These are vintage uniforms. They look like the 1937 uniforms but they're not the same kind of cloth. Get it?

And that brings up a rather amusing story about part of the uniform worn by the 1937 team.

The Packers won the NFL championship in 1936 and thus were the league's representative in the fourth annual College All Star game in Chicago's Soldier Field in 1937.

The Packers had planned to wear new uniforms that league season but before the All Star game a sportswear company talked Coach Curly Lambeau into outfitting the Packers in some kind of a new jersey that the company had produced.

The game was played in 90-degree heat, equal humidity, and the Packers became the first team to actually get blanketed by the collegians by a lowly score of 6 to 0. The only score came on a 47-yard pass from the great Sammy Baugh to Gaynell Tinsley.

Packers wrapped in blankets

This was quite a shocker but my departed friend, Jimmy Ford who did a little equipment work for the Pack then, had the loss figured out. "In that heat the Packers were dead after the pre-game warmup," Jimmy said. He explained:

"Those jerseys were all wool. It was like playing in a blanket. Wool was heavy stuff then and they didn't have salt pills and things like that." A few weeks later the Packers wore their new jerseys — similar to the ones that are on display during this Throwback season. Back then the gold shoulder panel stopped at the edge of the shoulder and the sleeves were Navy. The 1994 version has the gold panel but the sleeves are also gold.

The Packers never got into a "fancy" uniform until 1935, Don Hutson's first year. Before that the Packers wore a dark blue (Navy) jersey and sort of "goldish" pants, though in the earlier days the pants were plain old canvas.

'We're the Green Bay Packers'

In 1935 and 1936 the jersey was rather hideous, with yellow sleeves and shoulders and Navy over the front, which looked a little like a chest protector.

Then in 1937, the jersey had a yellow (gold) panel on the shoulders, and the rest of the jersey was Navy. The pants changed, with different shades of yellow over the next 13 years. The uniforms never changed much until Gene Ronzani replaced Lambeau in 1950 and then dressed the team in green. Like Gene said, "We're the Green Bay Packers, why not green?" Gradually, the team drifted to its present Green 'n' Gold.

Tears back in those olden days didn't come equipped with three-passers (Brett

Favre, Ty Detmer and Mark Brunell) as they do now and thus when the Packers emerged from the All Star loss with their two best passers, Arnie Herber and Bobby Monnett, injuries they suffered when the NFL season opened.

Both missed the opener vs. the Chicago Cardinals and the Packers fell, 14-7. Then the Chicago Bears invaded

Art Daley



Green Bay and Herber couldn't play. Another loss, 14-2. In Game 3, Detroit visited Green Bay and, with Herber and Hutson operating, the Packers won, 26-6. They won the next six games but lost the final pair to give up the title.

Everything, body is bigger

Living now in these 1990s is sure fantastic but when you look 57 years back things seemed like they were in "miniature," as it were. Sure the game, itself, did, for example, the Packers added 6,000 seats in 1937 and, wow, they set an attendance record 17,553 for the Detroit game. Now they've got close to 60,000 seats and a waiting list. Green Bay's population was around 35,000 and now it's close to 100,000. And then there are the prices, but you get the idea.

In the last few years, the football players have gotten quite a bit larger — fleshy; as grandma used to say.

Let's compare today's offensive linemen with the 1937 starters:

Left Tackle — Ken Ruettgers 6-6, 290; Lou Gordon 6-5, 230.

Left Guard — Frank Winters 6-3, 290; Tiny Engebretson 6-1, 240.

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Right Tackle — Joe Sims 6-3, 310; Bill Lee 6-3, 225.

Ends similarly sized

Back in '37 they only had two starting (receivers) but they were quite slight — Don Hutson 6-1, 180 and Milt Gantenbein 6-0, 200. There are three receivers now — Sterling Sharpe 6-1, 207; Robert Brooks 6-0, 175; and Ed West 6-1, 250. Thus there is little difference between Sharpe, Brooks, Hutson and Gantenbein.

They had four backs then and the quarterback was a blocker. The passer was the right or left halfback and the fullback gained the hard yards. Now, there are three backs and the QB is the passer and the other two are called "running backs."

The 1937 backfield scaled thusly: QB Hank Bruder 6-0, 200; Arnie Herber LH

or RH 5-11, 195; Paul Miller LH or RH 5-10, 180; and Clarke Hinkle FB 5-11, 205; Today's backs: Favre 6-2, 222; Reggie Cobb 6-0, 215; Edgar Bennett 6-0, 224.

Keep in mind that all these "little fellas" from 1937 also played defense. Can you imagine a secondary of Favre, Brooks, Sharpe and maybe Cobb? Deliver me.

And, of course, you could compare the paychecks of then and now. They got peanuts back in 1937 compared to today's numbers. Dropping a pass or blowing a tackle was serious back then but it seems a lot more serious now when the pass-dropper is getting a million bucks.

Yeah, I know, a hamburger was five cents in '37, but... See you next week.

Art Daley, founder of Packer Yearbook, retired as Green Bay Press-Gazette sports editor in the 1970s. He's covered the Pack since '41 and was inducted into the Packer Hall of Fame in 1983.

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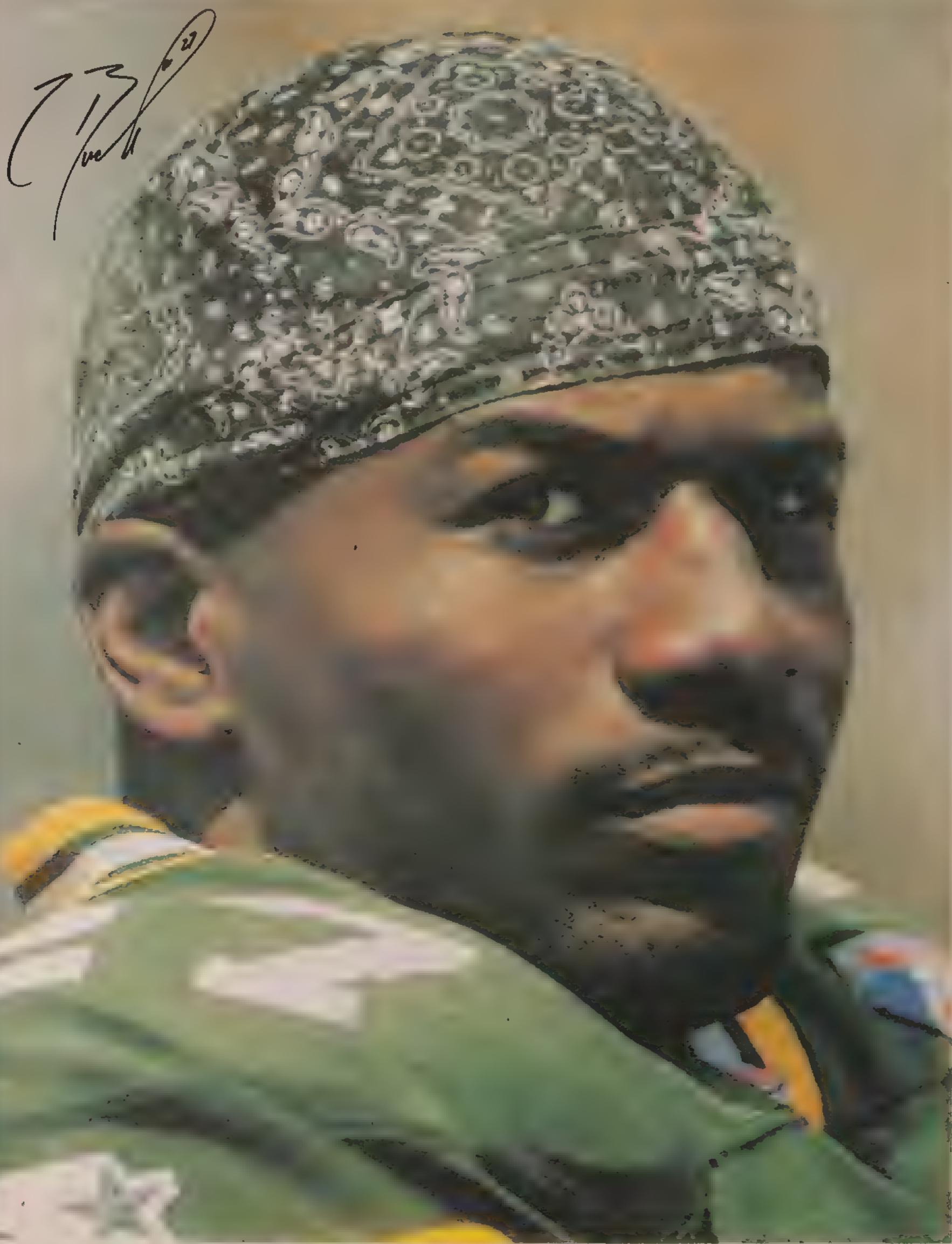
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Holmgren: 'It's the little things'

by Al Pahl
Managing Editor

Fresh from last Sunday's 13-7 loss at Philadelphia, Coach Mike Holmgren said Monday a total examination of the offense was in order.

"We're looking at analyzing every area: Scheme-wise, player-wise, today and tomorrow," he promised. "And there might be some changes because you can't win many games like this. If our defense continues to keep the scoring down, we have got to figure out a way to score more points."

"I am puzzled. It's been awhile since I've been involved in an offense where I just didn't think we were going to score every time we got the ball."

"We're going to be okay," Holmgren assured. "It's just that right now, I'm searching for a way to jump start this thing."

One of the few certainties Holmgren would admit to Monday was that benching Brett Favre was not his idea of the answer. "As the saying goes, he probably gets more credit and he probably gets more blame. That's the nature of the position," the head coach admitted. "But it's not a one-man show...people have to block for him, people have to catch the ball when it's thrown."

"It's a team game. Even if, deep down in my heart I didn't think he was doing a good job, I probably wouldn't tell you guys that. But he's doing fine. He's OK. And it's early."

The study was completed by Wednesday, when Holmgren said his team's 1-2 record and generally poor offensive showing had not been due to a big hit-you-square-in-the-face problem.

It had been the little things.

"As usual it boiled down to execution," he said. "On offense, we looked hard at the scheme we had and the plan we had for them, and while you'd like to have a couple calls back, every game I feel like that. All in all, we didn't do the little things."

"Those are correctable and we're working on that this week. We'll be okay."

Holmgren appeared to back off the possibility of many personnel changes, but he said changes were still possible, although none were apparent to media members observing practice. "It will depend on how guys practice this week," said Holmgren, "and how I feel we have to use certain people in certain situations in the game, more than any sort of demotion -- that's not going to happen."

Thus he left himself with the task of coaching the present players into doing "the little things" better. "I believe with those types of things, it really is a concentration thing," Holmgren said. "Either things are happening a little quick or you

didn't anticipate (things) or perhaps you didn't study enough. The effort is there but maybe you were surprised with something that happened."

"The other thing is the skill you have to have at each position. If you're a lineman, you have to block. If you're a receiver, you have to catch the ball. And if you're a quarterback, you have to throw it. You have to take care of your own job first and concentrate."

"If you've done it once, you can do it every time," Holmgren maintained. "So why doesn't it happen every time? You did something different. So you just talk

in very practical, fundamental terms about the skills you need to execute that particular play at your position. Most players can understand that."

The Packer run game functioned particularly poorly in Weeks Two and Three. Asked when he'd like to get that going, Holmgren replied, "I'd like to do that Sunday (Bucs). I wanted to do it last Sunday. We're not running the ball the way I want to. We're going to keep working on it and keep going. There's no easy answer to that. I want it. You want it. Everybody wants it. I think we're a more effective team if we have it."

"There are some reasons -- I'm certainly not talking about Reggie Cobb which seems to be everyone's favorite topic. There are reasons why we're not running the ball well. And, of course, the Miami game screwed up all the statistics because we didn't run the ball at all. That was me, not any player."

"I want to get it going. We're committed to it. We're working on it and working on it," Holmgren said. "Keep in mind that we have so many little, short passes that we substitute for a lot of runs in (other) people's offenses. That's just the nature of our offense."

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Dukes

Continued from page 6

can't just be Sterling (Sharpe), or it can't just be Reggie Cobb, or it can't just be Brett (Favre).

"Number one, you can't turn the ball over -- you're never going to win in this league doing that...Take the Minnesota game. We had a lot of turnovers and we didn't put many points on the board. We have to make a concentrated effort to get things going, to get things done."

It's just...making it happen

"And when you're in the red zone, you've got to score. Our numbers (statistics) are as good as anybody in the league. But, when we get in the zone, we haven't been scoring, and that's what's been killing us."

Convinced that a solution to the Packers' early offensive difficulties could be found, Dukes insists, "There's no question about it. It's just a matter of tightening down and going out there and making it happen."

Having said that, he noted, "We really haven't been playing that well on offense. This goes back...The best offensive showing we've had was the first Dolphin game. That's the most productive game the offense has had."

Although mindful the focus always must be on the opponent at hand, Jamie admits he is "definitely" looking forward to playing against his old Falcon teammates at Milwaukee Dec. 18.

Grass is the place to play

Touching upon the circumstances which prompted him to leave Atlanta, he explained, "They wanted to re-negotiate my contract, so I asked them to release me...Astroturf (at the Georgia Dome) was killing me. I asked them to raise my salary to compensate me for what I was losing in career longevity.

"That was the big reason I came here -- playing on grass. We'll be playing 13 games on grass this year -- 13 out of 20.

"I don't like cold weather, either," Dukes said, addressing the difference in climate, "but I do like grass. It's a differ-

ent breed of grass here, but it's grass. It's very thick -- it slows down everybody who comes in here."

One element that has eased Dukes' adjustment to his new surroundings has been the presence of four fellow former Florida State players -- Edgar Bennett, LeRoy Butler, Terrell Buckley and Ron Lewis -- on the roster.

Although he is the senior member of this group by several years, Jamie says, "I knew 'em all. I go back to Florida State and I helped recruit some of them. I was a senior when Ron Lewis came up on a recruiting trip. I knew 'em, all from going down and visiting. I tried to help them out with agent selection, or if they had questions, things like that."

Doin' business with Deion

Although he left Atlanta behind professionally, he has business ties there. He is a partner of ex-teammate Deion Sanders in a hair salon, "Deion's Hair Designs."

"I talk to him a couple of times a week," Dukes confided, referring to Sanders. "He's very pleased (to now be playing for the 49ers). It's something he wants to do. The elements took him out of Green Bay. It wasn't the people or the town, it was just the elements."

The articulate Schenectady, N.Y. native admits coming to Green Bay has been "kind of a culture shock -- from the glitz of the big city to somewhat suburbia...That's been an adjustment."

"But I actually lived in an area much like this (outside of Atlanta). But if you wanted the distractions of the big city, you had them. Here there's no such temptations like that whatever."

"Such temptations," he went on to say, are not a personal concern at this stage of his career and life.

"A lot of young guys are inclined to live on the wild side. But in general as a professional athlete, as you become more seasoned, you do what it takes," Dukes volunteered. "You're not going to put yourself in positions where you wear yourself out. I know what I need to do to prepare myself to play. It takes time...nobody's any different."

And when he is not preparing himself to play football...?

"I like to play golf...I like to fish."



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Dukes replied, then smiled and quipped. "Now my new hobbies will be snowmobiling, I'm sure..."

"And ice fishing..."

Packer Executive Director of Public Relations Lee Remmel covered the team for the Green Bay Press-Gazette from the mid 1940s through the mid 1970s.

thought he was "a goner" that night. "I thought I was having a heart attack. They gave me some medicine to calm me down. I was really out of it. The pain was too much. There was all that fluid in my chest."

"The pain from putting that tube in was astronomical," Butler said.

Injury update

Besides the question of whether fullback Edgar Bennett (separated shoulder) would play against the Bucs, another call that waited until Sunday morning was right tackle. In the first three games, incumbent Joe Sims (arch) had been able to play only two quarters. Paul Hutchins had started, but injured a knee at Philly, missing the second half. Enter Earl Dotson, whose ankle was still not 100%.

All three participated in at least part of practice all last week, with Hutchins getting increased time at left tackle behind Ken Ruettgers while Sims worked with the first unit at right tackle.

Linebacker Wayne Simmons (knee) and tight end Mark Chmura (hamstring) were doubtful for the Bucs game. Neither practiced last week although Simmons ran on the side both days.

Guard Guy McIntyre (blood clot) and strong safety LeRoy Butler (pneumonia) did not play Tampa Bay.

Worst is past for Butler

Doctors had LeRoy Butler on so much medication battling pneumonia and pain that he didn't know until two days after the Eagles' game how that contest came out.

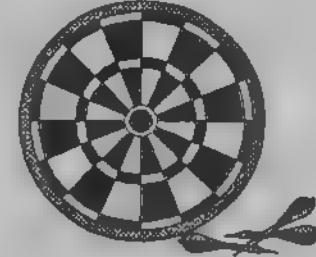
"They said it was one of the worst cases they had ever seen," Butler told the Milwaukee Sentinel Wednesday.

He began having discomfort Wednesday, Sept. 14, but passed it off as indigestion and practiced as usual. Two days later the pain was severe. By Friday night he was hospitalized.

The fluid buildup in his lungs was huge, causing severe chest pain by Saturday. A chest tube to drain the lungs was inserted and left in until Wednesday, when he was moved from intermediate care to a regular hospital room.

"I couldn't breathe," Butler said of Saturday's experience, revealing he

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Pahl

Continued from page 5

I'm human — that I'm going to make a mistake. I'm not perfect.

"That's how I can get my mind relaxed. And just put the Lord first — he still loves me, no matter what happens.

"That's something I was concentrating on all week — not worrying about not making a mistake," he explained. "I'm not perfect. If I drop a ball, I look at it and say, 'Next time they come my way, I'm going to catch it.'"

Relationship interesting from the start

The West-Harris relationship has been interesting from the very beginning. West was the established starter here when his employers drafted Harris on the fourth round in 1990. Although Harris has big-play, deep-threat ability West does not, he was not threatened by the younger man. West is one of the best blocking tight ends in the business and he knows it. He quickly took Harris under his wing, teaching him the ropes without regard to his own place on the team.

It was West himself who suggested to tight ends Coach Andy Reid during the team flight home from Atlanta Oct. 4, 1992 that Harris ought to be the starter.

He watched his protégé be named the 1994 transition player following that season. When the 1993 season ended and through the first three minicamps of 1994, West "felt great being No. 2" and knowing "that if something would happen to Jackie, I'd step right in and take over."

But on June 22, West watched Harris move to Tampa for much larger dollars.

"It was something I had to deal with when Jackie went to Tampa Bay — I had to get my mind set to be a starter," West said. "I worked hard in the off-season, came into camp and had a good camp and things have been working great."

"Age-wise, my body definitely doesn't feel like it did six years ago," the 33-year-old said. "I hope I can stay healthy and last out through the season."

LeShon Johnson coming around

The Packer offense and Johnson are starting to get on the same page. The coaches would like to expand his role in the offense as he expands his knowledge thereof.

Sunday, he got the most carries in his young career, 10, totaling 21 yards. But his bigger contribution came on the receiving end, where he led all receivers with 84 yards, making six catches.

Johnson said he's starting to do some of the things he hoped he'd accomplish this season, "as far as running the ball — and catching it. So many people doubted me on my ability to catch. Now I'm getting a chance to show people I have receiving skills."

"It's always been fun to me," the soft-spoken rookie said. "The more I play here, the funner it gets, but it's always been fun to me."

Sunday was fun for not only the Packers but also their fans.

Victory

Continued from page 3

Bennett gained four yards on first down. Johnson was held for no gain, but Bennett caught a screen pass on the right side, and used blocks by Harry Galbreath and Jamie Dukes to get a nine-yard touchdown for a 10-0 lead with 7:36 left in the half.

Two possessions later, Erickson was in the pocket and White knocked the ball loose for a seven-yard sack. Steve McMichael fell on it, setting Green Bay up at Tampa's 22 with 1:17 left. Jacke's 20-yard field goal with 16 seconds to go, giving the Packers a 13-0 lead.

Jacke No. 1 in career field goals in Packer history

Jacke hit a 22-yard field goal on Green Bay's first drive after halftime, giving the Packers a 16-0 lead. The boot pushed him past Chester Marcol into first place on Green Bay's all-time list with 121 career field goals.

Harris had his only highlight on Tampa's next drive, getting between Tim Hauck and George Teague for a 41-yard gain to the seven. Erickson's next three passes were incomplete, and Michael Husted booted a 24-yard field goal for the Bucs' only points with 4:12 left in the quarter.

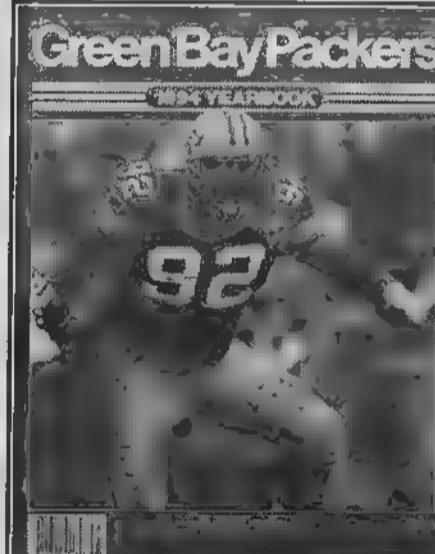
"It was one of those plays where (Teague) and myself were in and out on him and the back," Hauck said. "The

back didn't release so it wasn't really defined who was going to pick him up. He got on top of us."

West scored his touchdown as the quarter ended to put the game out of reach, and Sterling Sharpe had a three-yard TD catch in the fourth quarter to finish the scoring.

Roland Mitchell's surgery goes well

Cornerback Roland Mitchell had successful surgery on the herniated disk in his neck Tuesday. Mitchell, who suffered the injury Sept. 4 against Minnesota, will remain on injured reserve and unavailable to play the remainder of the season.



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Fathers, take your sons to Lambeau

Dear Al.

I am a Packer fanatic trapped deep in the heart of Viking land. I am convinced this only strengthens my positive attitude about the Pack, even through the lean years. My son just turned 10 and also has chosen the green and gold as his favorite team (he dislikes the Vikings as much as I do, bless his heart). Going through his teen years with the Packers winning will surely hook him for life!

I took my son to his first professional football game ever, in Lambeau Field against the Vikings. What a wonderful weekend! Beating the Vikings in the opener was enormous. It couldn't have turned out better...except for the Sterling Sharpe distraction. My son can't really understand why someone would do such a thing. The game's the thing to him, and I have a hard time relating to it myself. He was happy in the end because all he cared about was that Sterling was playing. I wish Sterling felt that way.

But it was a glorious weekend!! All you Packer fathers and sons...you NEED to go to a game there, just once. There's no better place, no better fans, no better tradition for football, anywhere!

I know I'll take him again.

Joel Heebink
Coon Rapids, MN

There is no more Sterling

Dear Packer Report,

I recently spent \$99 so that I could watch as many football games as I wanted to on a given Sunday. Thus far, two weeks into the season, I can say I am glad I spent the money.

I have seen some great catches, dropped balls, poor officiating, weak defenses, stupid coaching, brilliant calls, great runs, rookie mistakes, and anything else involved in professional football, but at NO TIME, in NO SITUATION WHATSOEVER, have I seen anything so unprofessional, so selfish, so lowlife,



Larry McGuire saw the need for some "serious Packer spirit" in Rockton, Ill., which he says is 95% Bear fans. "You wouldn't believe the looks I get," McGuire writes. "It's GREAT!"

as Sterling Sharpe threatening not to play the day before the opener.

If Sterling had caught eighteen passes in '93 do you think he would have gone to Ron Wolf and said I don't deserve what I signed for, so cut my pay? Fat chance.

Brett has it right: If you give your word to something, live up to it. When you can't run or play anymore, you still have your honor. As far as I'm concerned there is no more Sterling - just silver plated!

Packer fan since 1974,
Football fan since 1954,
Richard M. Lefcowitz
Minong, WI

What is "out of reach?"

Dear Packer Report,

Having been a Packer fan for many years, (the first game I saw was against the Bears in City Stadium, Sid Luckman was quarterback for the Bears) and a Report subscriber for a number of years, I get upset with some of the things I see on the field and read in the report.

Brett Favre, I think the jury is still out on this guy. He seems to have a lot of potential and at times shows it, but still hasn't grown up, in the game, as could be witnessed by the interception against the Dolphins. It looked to me as though he was trying to force it in there again instead of sending it into the stands. He was really having a bad day throwing, as again could be witnessed by the way he was missing his receivers, not by much, but that's sort of like shooting rabbits,

miss by an inch and you might as well have shot in the other direction. I kept hollering at Holmgren to take him out, but his hearing must be bad, I mean it's only about 200 miles.

I think one of the most disappointing things about Mike Holmgren is the way he abandons the running game. Seven running plays all game?? Four in the first half? We don't have the best running game in the NFL however, it's not that bad. They had a 5.4 average for the plays they ran. How much does he want? I also don't buy they quit running because we were behind, since up until 30 seconds before the half we were only behind by 10, absolutely not a reason to panic. It seems to me, and this applies to most runners, on most teams, that most of the runs especially into the line don't go far, but with some amount of perseverance every so often, one breaks, and picks up 10 to 15. I don't think he's giving it a chance. Even in the second half, you still need to run just to keep the defensive line honest, even if they don't go anywhere, they sure slow the charge to the quarterback.

The last complaint I have is due to a remark in the report in the accounting of the Miami game, about, at 24-0 the game was "out of reach." When the Dolphins went up 24-0 there was still a quarter and a half left to play. I don't think that was out of reach. The Packers had in the game at least four opportunities to score and didn't, max total on those opportunities would have been 27 points plus the 14. Looks to me like a total of 41 possi-

ble points. I keep thinking of a game several years ago, I believe against the Rams. At halftime I think we were behind about 38-3 or somewhere in that area. Don Majkowski and Company did lose the game, but I think the final score was something like 41-38. My thinking is this: The Rams scored 38 points in the first 30 minutes of the game, the Packers scored 35 points in the second half, why then is 24 points with almost 23 minutes left, out of reach? Very possible, had the two-point conversion been available then, the Packers might have won that game.

When the point is reached, when the game actually is out of reach, either winning or losing, how about playing Detmer or Brunell and give them some experience? I believe there comes a time in most games (not so in the Vikings game), when the game does get out of reach, but not 24-0 with 23 minutes left.

I don't think we, fans, writers, etc. should say that a game was out of reach under those circumstances. If the players think we really feel that way they might think it's ok for them to do it again.

I also don't think the Packers are a Super Bowl contender yet this year, there are still a few holes to fill, playoffs yes, Super Bowl I don't think so. Very possible in the '95 season.

Dick Hughes
Phillips, WI

"Out of reach" is clearly a judgment call. Against Miami, Joe DiGiovanni made that call, based on how this team of players was playing that particular day against that day's opponent. It's got nothing to do with Majik and a different team playing a different opponent. Was it mathematically possible for the Packers to come back from 24-0? Yes. You proved that. Did it appear it would happen that day? Joe decided no.

As for the players reading that, I don't believe they care what we write.

— Ed.

Play at home

Dear Ray:

When a team plays most of its games on the road it has to be a disadvantage. I would hope, since the lease is up at Milwaukee County Stadium, that the Packer front office will decide to play all home games at home in Green Bay.

I'm disappointed the way Sterling Sharpe felt he had to walk out, especially a day before a game. Most importantly, a foe as formative as the Vikings, but everything worked out and the Pack got a much needed victory over the Vikings.

Robert P. Garbie
Old Bridge, NJ

Continued on next page

More letters

It's in Mike's veins, too

To the editor,

Through the past two years we watched the Pack grow in a year-round cycle. The Green and Gold pumping through our veins went from a trickle to a thundershower. Guess who else is feeling this Green and Gold flame! By signing a three-year extension after a year of thought, Coach Mike Holmgren has admittedly been bit by the glory of Title Town. Sure put a smile on my face knowing that he is fully committed to this the greatest football franchise, Packer football, God's team. Congratulations Coach Holmgren!

The Pack is Back,
Dave J. Kramer
Tampa, FL

To much coaching

Dear Ray,

Just finished watching the loss to Miami again but this time in slow motion, and had to write. We were out-coached first, both offensively and on defense, and their offensive line just flat out outplayed our front four on defense. Reggie White looked like a \$100 per year man today, and he wasn't hardly double teamed.

Please don't ever let Ron Wolf or Mike Holmgren say they want a running game. They speak like Bill Clinton, symbolism over substance. We guessed that the Packers ran the ball 10 times in the game but at second look it was only seven running plays the whole game. First series was, pass, pass, pass, punt. In fact in our first 23 plays from scrimmage, we only ran the ball four times but gained 18 yards. Over four yards per carry. Favre looked poor and we showed we could run against a team, with a third string middle linebacker in there and we pass all day. Common sense would dictate we run the ball at them until they prove (and not just on one play) they can

stop us. Keep the ball away from Marino!

We drafted a back, Johnson, in the third round, who is an I-formation back and has speed but little, or no moves. Could have found an inside linebacker at that spot in the draft. We sure could use somebody there as Strickland is pitiful. Plus our defensive calls had Koone and Strickland blitzing and that wonderful "undrafted, shifty, Spikes, makes something happen on his own." His ability along with the poor tackling Packers and poor defensive play calling, made for a very long day. Our cornerbacks are terrible. Drop off 12 yards when it is third and eight, and they still are back peddling. When did Marino actually take more than three seconds to get off a pass? I really miss Ray Rhodes. He must have really wanted to leave Green Bay, as I'm sure we would have just about done anything to keep him.

Also, Holmgren, had a perfect opportunity to replace Favre in the third quarter with Detmer, but no way, again all talk. Favre played well in the fourth quarter, when the game was long over. Why not give the other QB's some playing time.

I thought I saw Leroy Butler my favorite player, hurt his arm during the game, but he stayed in there. He looked like he was playing hurt. Not his normal tackling in the second half. I sure hope he is OK.

In summary, I think there is TOO much coaching during the game. Let the players react more. This game showed how much the team missed and will miss Noble and Holland. Trade Sharpe to San Diego, for Junior Seau even up. Defense

still wins ball games, and we don't have what it takes in the middle and at corner. Without Sterling maybe we would become the more balanced attack it takes to win the NFC championship.

Sincerely,
Mark Vuchetich
Puyallup, WA

Poorly prepared

Packer Report,

I watched the Pack beat the Vikings and I loved it. Last week I watched the Packers lose to the Dolphins and I could not believe what I saw.

I could not believe what I saw, our team was so poorly prepared for this game it was sad.

Our No. 2 defense looked like a high school team out on the field. The tackling was so bad I could not believe it.

Now come on Mike, tell me what your game plan was? What were you prepared to do against the Dolphins?

I also can't believe you didn't take Favre out of the game to let him settle down a little bit after the backward pass he tried to throw, or dropped ball, whatever it was.

For you players: If you don't have enough pride in yourselves or your team, to play better football then you did Sunday then you don't deserve to wear the Green and Gold. Because it stands for much more than what you guys make it out to be.

I want to see smart coaching, hard working players, and the pride back that this team once had.

I want to see you guys kick Dallas' butt on Thanksgiving Day. I want to see this team in the playoffs, and last I want to see this team win the Super Bowl.

Richard Rodes
Rock Island, IL

Put it in perspective

Dear Editor:

The press and some Packer fans are way too negative and way too hard on Brett Favre.

This man has changed the whole outlook for the Packers for years to come. He's a great player. He's an achiever. He obviously works hard. He loves what he does. I say layoff!! After watching some other quarterbacks around the division and NFL, I appreciate Brett Favre. I've always been a long-range thinker and I say he's worth his wages. So are Sterling Sharpe and Reggie White. They're all phenomenon in football.

Growing up in the Glory Years, (I'm 40), I remember Lombardi's Packers had many a close call. A good example? The Ice Bowl. Those guys made a lot of mistakes too.

Putting it into perspective. They're never was or will be a team or player that does not make mistakes or lose a game or two. Let's support the new Packers positively and have fun! This team is an achiever. Win or lose!!

Bob Durst
Madison, WI

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(Central Time)
Week 1

Sunday, Sept. 4

Bears 21, Tampa Bay 9
 Detroit 31, Atlanta 28 (ot)
 Cleveland 28, Cincinnati 20
 Indianapolis 45, Houston 21
 Kansas City 30, New Orleans 17
PACKERS 16, Minnesota 10
 N.Y. Giants 28, Philadelphia 23
 Seattle 28, Washington 7
 L.A. Rams 14, Arizona 12
 Dallas 26, Pittsburgh 9
 Miami 39, New England 35
 N.Y. Jets 23, Buffalo 3
 San Diego 37, Denver 34

Monday, Sept. 5

San Francisco 44, L.A. Raiders 14

Week 2

Sunday, Sept. 11

Buffalo 38, New England 35
 Minnesota 10, Detroit 3
 Tampa Bay 24, Indianapolis 10
 Atlanta 31, L.A. Rams 13
 Miami 24, **PACKERS** 14
 Pittsburgh 17, Cleveland 10
 Kansas City 24, San Francisco 17
 San Diego 27, Cincinnati 10
 N.Y. Jets 25, Denver 22 (ot)
 Dallas 20, Houston 17
 Seattle 38, L.A. Raiders 9
 Washington 38, New Orleans 24
 N.Y. Giants 20, Arizona 17

Monday, Sept. 12

Philadelphia 30, Bears 22

Week 3

Sunday, Sept. 18

Minnesota 42, Bears 14
 Cleveland 32, Arizona 0
 Buffalo 15, Houston 7
Philadelphia 13, **PACKERS** 7
 Pittsburgh 31, Indianapolis 21
 New England 31, Cincinnati 28
 New Orleans 9, Tampa Bay 7
 Miami 28, N.Y. Jets 14
 L.A. Raiders 48, Denver 16
 San Diego 24, Seattle 10
 San Francisco 34, L.A. Rams 19
 N.Y. Giants 31, Washington 23
 Kansas City 30, Atlanta 10

Monday, Sept. 19

Detroit 21, Dallas 17 (ot)

Week 4

BYE: Arizona, Dallas, N.Y. Giants, Philadelphia

Sunday, Sept. 25

Atlanta 27, Washington 20
 Cleveland 21, Indianapolis 14
 L.A. Rams 16, Kansas City 0
 Minnesota 38, Miami 35
PACKERS 30, Tampa Bay 3
 Houston 20, Cincinnati 13
 New England 23, Detroit 17
 San Francisco 24, New Orleans 13
 San Diego 26, L.A. Raiders 24
 Seattle 30, Pittsburgh 13
 Bears 19, N.Y. Jets 7

Monday, Sept. 26

Denver at Buffalo 8 p.m.

Week 5

BYE: Denver, Kansas City, L.A. Raiders,

San Diego

Sunday, Oct. 2

Buffalo at Bears 3 p.m.
 Dallas at Washington Noon
 Detroit at Tampa Bay Noon
PACKERS at New England Noon
 N.Y. Jets at Cleveland Noon
 Seattle at Indianapolis Noon
 Atlanta at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
 Minnesota at Arizona 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at New Orleans 3 p.m.
 Philadelphia at San Francisco 3 p.m.
 Miami at Cincinnati 7 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3

Houston at Pittsburgh 8 p.m.

Week 6

BYE: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Houston, Pittsburgh

Sunday, Oct. 9

New Orleans at Bears Noon
 Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets Noon
 L.A. Rams at **PACKERS** Noon
 Miami at Buffalo Noon
 San Francisco at Detroit Noon

PACKER DATES FOR 1994

Pre-Season

Packers 14, Rams 6
 Dolphins 31, Packers 24

Regular Season

| | Vikings | Packers | Opp. |
|----------------|-------------------|---------|------|
| Sun., Sept. 4 | Dolphins at Milw. | 16 | 10 |
| Sun., Sept. 11 | at Philadelphia | 14 | 24 |
| Sun., Sept. 18 | Buccaneers | 7 | 13 |
| Sun., Sept. 25 | | 30 | 3 |
| Sun., Oct. 2 | at New England | Noon | Fox |
| Sun., Oct. 9 | Rams | Noon | Fox |
| Sun., Oct. 16 | BYE | | |
| Thur., Oct. 20 | at Minnesota | 7 p.m. | TNT |
| Mon., Oct. 31 | at Chicago | 8 p.m. | ABC |
| Sun., Nov. 6 | Detroit at MKE | Noon | Fox |
| Sun., Nov. 13 | Jets | 3 p.m. | NBC |
| Sun., Nov. 20 | at Buffalo | Noon | Fox |
| Thur., Nov. 24 | at Dallas | 3 p.m. | Fox |
| Sun., Dec. 4 | at Detroit | Noon | Fox |
| Sun., Dec. 11 | Bears | Noon | Fox |
| Sun., Dec. 18 | Falcons at MKE | Noon | Fox |
| Sat., Dec. 24 | at Tampa | Noon | Fox |

National TV game for sure. More may be announced later
 ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL

Tampa Bay at Atlanta Noon
 Arizona at Dallas 3 p.m.
 Denver at Seattle 3 p.m.
 Kansas City at San Diego 3 p.m.
 L.A. Raiders at New England 3 p.m.
 Washington at Philadelphia 7 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 10

Minnesota at N.Y. Giants 8 p.m.

Week 7

BYE: Chicago, Detroit, **PACKERS**, Minnesota,
 Seattle, Tampa Bay
 Thursday, Oct. 13

Cleveland at Houston 8 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 16

Arizona at Washington Noon
 Cincinnati at Pittsburgh Noon
 Indianapolis at Buffalo Noon
 L.A. Raiders at Miami Noon
 New England at N.Y. Jets Noon
 San Francisco at Atlanta Noon
 N.Y. Giants at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Dallas 3 p.m.
 San Diego at New Orleans 3 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17

Kansas City at Denver 8 p.m.

Week 8

BYE: Buffalo, Miami, New England, N.Y. Jets
 Thursday, Oct. 20

PACKERS at Minnesota 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 23

Bears at Detroit Noon
 Cincinnati at Cleveland Noon
 L.A. Rams at New Orleans Noon
 Pittsburgh at N.Y. Giants Noon
 Seattle at Kansas City Noon
 Washington at Indianapolis Noon
 Atlanta at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 Dallas at Arizona 3 p.m.
 Denver at San Diego 3 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at San Francisco 3 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 24

Houston at Philadelphia 8 p.m.

Week 9

BYE: Atlanta, L.A. Rams, New Orleans,
 San Francisco
 Sunday, Oct. 30

Dallas at Cincinnati Noon
 Detroit at N.Y. Giants Noon
 Kansas City at Buffalo Noon
 Miami at New England Noon
 Philadelphia at Washington Noon
 Cleveland at Denver 3 p.m.
 Houston at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 Minnesota at Tampa Bay 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis 3 p.m.
 Seattle at San Diego 3 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Arizona 7 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 31

PACKERS at Bears 8 p.m.

Packers 13, Saints 10
 Packers 24, Patriots 20

Week 10

Sunday, Nov. 6

Bears at Tampa Bay Noon
 Detroit vs. **PACKERS** at Milwaukee Noon
 Indianapolis at Miami Noon
 New England at Cleveland Noon
 New Orleans at Minnesota Noon
 Pittsburgh at Houston Noon
 San Diego at Atlanta Noon
 San Francisco at Washington Noon
 Arizona at Philadelphia 3 p.m.
 Buffalo at N.Y. Jets 3 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Seattle 3 p.m.
 Denver at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
 L.A. Raiders at Kansas City 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 7

N.Y. Giants at Dallas 8 p.m.

Week 11

BYE: Indianapolis, Washington
 Sunday, Nov. 13

Bears at Miami Noon
 Arizona at N.Y. Giants Noon
 Atlanta at New Orleans Noon
 Cleveland at Philadelphia Noon
 Houston at Cincinnati Noon
 Minnesota at New England Noon
 San Diego at Kansas City Noon
 Dallas at San Francisco 3 p.m.
 L.A. Raiders at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at **PACKERS** 3 p.m.
 Seattle at Denver 3 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Detroit 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 14

Buffalo at Pittsburgh 8 p.m.

Week 12

Sunday, Nov. 20

Detroit at Bears Noon
 Cleveland at Kansas City Noon
PACKERS at Buffalo Noon
 Indianapolis at Cincinnati Noon
 Miami at Pittsburgh Noon
 San Diego at New England Noon
 Washington at Dallas Noon
 Atlanta at Denver 3 p.m.
 New Orleans at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Minnesota 3 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Arizona 3 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Seattle 3 p.m.
 L.A. Rams at San Francisco 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 21

N.Y. Giants at Houston 8 p.m.

Week 13

Thursday, Nov. 24

Buffalo at Detroit 11:30 a.m.
PACKERS at Dallas 3 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 27

Bears at Arizona 3 p.m.
 Houston at Cleveland Noon
 Miami at N.Y. Jets Noon

Philadelphia at Atlanta Noon
 Tampa Bay at Minnesota Noon
 Cincinnati at Denver 3 p.m.
 Kansas City at Seattle 3 p.m.
 L.A. Rams at San Diego 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at Washington 3 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 New England at Indianapolis 7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 28

San Francisco at New Orleans 8 p.m.

Week 14

Thursday, Dec. 1

Bears at Minnesota 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 4

Dallas at Philadelphia Noon
PACKERS at Detroit Noon
 N.Y. Jets at New England Noon
 Pittsburgh at Cincinnati Noon
 Washington at Tampa Bay Noon
 Arizona at Houston 3 p.m.
 Atlanta at San Francisco 3 p.m.
 Denver at Kansas City 3 p.m.
 Indianapolis at Seattle 3 p.m.
 New Orleans at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at Cleveland 3 p.m.
 Buffalo at Miami 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5

L.A. Raiders at San Diego 8 p.m.

Week 15

Saturday, Dec. 10

Detroit at N.Y. Jets 11:30 a.m.
 Cleveland at Dallas 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 11

Bears at **PACKERS** Noon
 Cincinnati at N.Y. Giants Noon
 Indianapolis at New England Noon
 L.A. Rams at Tampa Bay Noon
 Minnesota at Buffalo Noon
 Philadelphia at Pittsburgh Noon
 Denver at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 San Francisco at San Diego 3 p.m.
 Seattle at Houston 3 p.m.
 Washington at Arizona 3 p.m.
 New Orleans at Atlanta 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 12

Kansas City at Miami 8 p.m.

Week 16

Saturday, Dec. 17

Minnesota at Detroit 11:30 a.m.
 Denver at San Francisco 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 18

L.A. Rams at Bears Noon
 Atlanta vs. **PACKERS** at Milwaukee Noon
 Cleveland at Pittsburgh Noon
 Miami at Indianapolis Noon
 New England at Buffalo Noon
 San Diego at N.Y. Jets Noon
 Tampa Bay at Washington Noon
 Cincinnati at Arizona 3 p.m.
 Houston at Kansas City 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia 3 p.m.
 L.A. Raiders at Seattle 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 19

Dallas at New Orleans 8 p.m.

Week 17

Saturday, Dec. 24

New England at Bears Noon
 Arizona at Atlanta Noon
 Buffalo at Indianapolis Noon
 Dallas at N.Y. Giants Noon
PACKERS at Tampa Bay Noon
 Philadelphia at Cincinnati Noon
 Seattle at Cleveland Noon
 Kansas City at L.A. Raiders 3 p.m.
 New Orleans at Denver 3 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Houston 3 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at San Diego 3 p.m.
 Washington at L.A. Rams 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 25

Detroit at Miami 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 26

San Francisco at Minnesota 8 p.m.

Postseason

Saturday, Dec. 31 ... AFC/NFC Wild Card Playoffs
 Sunday, Jan. 1 ... AFC/NFC Wild Card Playoffs
 Saturday, Jan. 7 ... AFC/NFC Divisional Playoffs
 Sunday, Jan. 8 ... AFC/NFC Divisional Playoffs
 Sunday, Jan. 15 ... AFC/NFC Championship Games
 Sunday, Jan. 29 ... Super Bowl XXIX
 Sunday, Feb. 5 ... AFC/NFC Pro Bowl



CENTRAL ISSUES

by John Delcos



Chicago Bears

Since 1989, the Bears are 15-5 in the first four games of the season, second only to Buffalo. Since 1984, they are 104-59 in the first quarter of a year, second to San Francisco. ... QB Erik Kramer has a separated left shoulder that will only heal with rest. He was questionable for Sunday night's game against the Jets. ... Rookie DE John Thierry has been struggling, as has Alonzo Spellman. Translation: The pass rush has been minimal. ... Despite the Bears' poor start on defense, there are apparently no regrets for letting DL Richard Dent (49ers) and Steve McMichael (Packers) get away.

THIS WEEK: Buffalo.

Series history -- Chicago leads, 3-2.

Last meeting -- In 1991, Buffalo won, 35-20, at home.

Scouting Report -- Beating the Bills begins with containing Thurman Thomas, and with the 28th-rated run defense, that won't be easy. ... Jim Kelly-to-Andre Reed has worked for a long time. ... Bears haven't established any consistency on the ground. ... Chicago LOT Andy Heck vs. DE Bruce Smith is a key matchup. ... Bills have great special teams.

RANKINGS: Offense, 22nd (27th rush, 13th pass); Defense, 24th (28th rush, T 15th pass).

INJURIES: RB Robert Green (abdomen), LB Vinson Smith (knee), LB Dante Jones (leg), LB Barry Minter (ankle), DT Carl Simpson (hip).



Detroit Lions

The Lions won in spite of themselves in Dallas. Coach Wayne Fontes' poor clock management and conservative play calling at the end wasted a superb defensive performance and a record-setting night by Barry Sanders, who set a club record with 40 carries.

The Lions kicked away nearly 30 seconds at the end of regulation, which forced K Jason Hanson to attempt an improbable 50-plus yard field goal. And, at the end of overtime, they sat on the ball, and let Hanson win it with nearly a 50-yard kick. ... Look for the Lions to use more of a traditional two-back set, with TE Ty Hallcock used as a blocking back.

THIS WEEK: At Tampa Bay.

Scouting Report -- QB Scott Mitchell showed remarkable composure vs. Cowboys. ... WR Herman Moore is gaining a big-play reputation. ... LB Broderick Thomas is playing with abandon, wants to do well against former team.

RANKINGS: Offense, 16th (5th rush, 22nd pass); Defense, 15th (23rd rush, 14th pass).

INJURIES: WR Anthony Carter (shoulder), RB Eric Lynch (appendix), TE Ron Hall (arch), C Leonard Burton (ankle), NT Marc Spindler (ankle), LB Broderick Thomas (ankle), C Mark Rodenhauser (back).



Minnesota Vikings

Offense shows signs of coming together after routing, Chicago 42-14. Vikings used double-TE set of Adrian Cooper and Andrew Jordan to kick-start run game of Terry Allen, (159 yards).

Run game opened up short passes for Warren Moon, who completed 21 of 28 passes in the short and middle zones. This balanced pressure enabled Vikings to spring 19 plays of 10 or more yards.

"If we keep it clicking like that, we'll be hard to beat," said WR Jake Reed.

THIS WEEK: At Arizona.

Series history -- Arizona leads, 7-4.

Last meeting -- In 1991, Minnesota swept, 34-7 (home), 28-0 (road).

Scouting Report -- It doesn't appear the Vikings defense has much to worry about. ... Cardinals are reeling under new coach Buddy Ryan, which should have everybody in a foul mood. This will be a physical game, and the odds of someone taking a hard hit are good. After all, this is a Ryan-coached team. ... Vikings will continue to use double-tight end formation and short passing game.

RANKINGS: Offense, 15th (9th rush, 19th pass); Defense, 4th (2nd rush, 8th pass).

INJURIES: G John Gerak (knee), S Todd Scott (hamstring), RB Amp Lee (knee).



Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Trustees for the estate of late owner Hugh Culverhouse maintain the team isn't for sale, but that's smoke. They are saying that so they can sell tickets for this season. ... After the season is over, look for Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos to make a big push, that is, unless he can get the Los Angeles Rams. ... Beginning with game at Green Bay, the Bucs are in a stretch in which they face receivers Sterling Sharpe, Detroit's Herman Moore, Atlanta's Andre Rison and San Francisco's Jerry Rice. The Bucs are ranked fifth against the pass, but smart money says that's likely to change over the next month.

THIS WEEK: Detroit.

Scouting Report -- Bucs haven't proved they can run the ball. ... Look for QB Craig Erickson to go to a short passing game. ... CB Martin Mayhew and FS Thomas Everett will give Herman Moore the double-team. ... Bucs defense hasn't played poorly, giving up only 13 points a game.

RANKINGS: Offense, 20th (21st rush, 18th pass); Defense, 6th (11th rush, 7th pass).

INJURIES: RB Anthony McDowell (ankle), S Tony Covington (knee), T Tim Irwin (biceps), TE Tyji Armstrong (quad).

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